Mid-Term appraisal of Ninth Five Year Plan

965. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mid-term appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan is made; and

(b) if so, how far the growth targets are met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTIC AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The exercise for the Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Ninth Five Yeal Plan is currently in progress. The Editorial Committee of the Planning Commission, constituted for the Mid Term Appraisal Document is in the process of finalising the draft chapters.

(b) Against a target average growth rate in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of 6.5 per cent per annum set for the Ninth Five Year Plan, the growth rate achieved in the first two years of the Plan was 5 and 6 per cent for 1997-98 and 1998-99, respectively.

UN report of Mal-Nutrition and Starvation

†966. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the United Nations report published recently wherein it has been stated that out of the total 800 million people in the world suffering from starvation and mal-nutrition, 204 million people belong to India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether government have carried out the actual estimate of

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

the number of people falling under the said category in the country; and

(d) if so, what is that figure alongiwth the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATES IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) World Food Programme has estimated that about 800 million people in the world do not have access to adequate food and are at risk of under nutrition.

In India investment in agriculture and green revolution have ensured that food production kept pace with the population growth. Public Distribution System (PDS) provides food grains at affordable cost. Because of these there has been no famine in the country. Acute severe food inadequacy leading to starvation is also rare.

However, low dietary intake and chronic under nutrition are still widely prevalent. Poverty and poor purchasing power have been identified as two major factors reponsible for low dietary intake.

Different criteria are used to estimate the number of persons who do not have access to adequate food and those who are undernourished.

Food intake has been used to identify persons at risk of under nutrition.

The NSSO estimates indicate that in 1993-94 5% of rural and 2% population do not get two square meals a day for some months (Hunger ratio).

Planning commission estimates that 320.4 million persons were living below poverty line in 1993-94 and may not have the purchasing power to meet their daily requirement of food (2400 kcal for rural and 2100 kcal for urban population).

Actual prevalence of under nutrition is identified on the basis of anthropometric indices (height and weight).

Studies on anthropometric indices carried out by Dept. of Women

and Child Development indicate that 28.6% of men, 36.3% of women and 49.2% of children are under nourished.

The Special Action Plan has accorded high priority to increasing food production and making India hunger free in ten years.

Objectives during the Ninth Plan are to achieve.

1. Freedom from hunger through increase in food production, effective distribution, improvement in purchasing power of the population;

2. Reduction in undernutrition and its health consequences through universalisation of ICDS, screening 'at risk groups', growth monitoring, better targeting of food supplements to those suffering from undernutrition, close monitoring of under-nourished persons receiving food supplements; effective intersectoral coordination between health and nutrition workers to ensure early detection and management of health problems associated with or leading to undernutrition;

3. Prevention, early detection and effective management of micronutrient deficiencies and the associated health hazards.

Plan allocation to North-Eastern States

967. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of Ninth Five Year Plan allotment to the North Eastern Region on State-wise basis with annual Plan outlay of 1999-2000;

(b) whether the 10% cut from Central Ministries/Departments will be adjusted to the allocation of Plan funds; and

(c) how far the allocation of Ninth Five Year Plan can be helpful to the States of North-Eastern Region to bring up to the National average of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES